

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Robert Peck on 4/11/08.

In lieu of the amended claims from the Amendment after Final of 2/26/08, the claims shall instead be amended as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving, by a computing device, a key matrix having N rows and M columns of matrix keys, where $N > 2$ and $M > 2$;

for each column of the key matrix, performing, by the computing device, arithmetic operations utilizing matrix keys of at least two selected rows of the key matrix to produce a secret device key which is part of a first set of secret device keys;

producing in memory of the computing device, by the computing device, a shared secret key based on arithmetic operations on selected secret device keys of the first set of secret device keys, the selected secret device keys being a portion of the first set of secret device keys and being determined based on a first key selection vector received from a recipient digital platform; and

Art Unit: 2135

using the shared secret key to provide a secure communication channel between a first digital platform and a second digital platform.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas Gyorfi whose telephone number is (571)272-3849. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am - 5:00pm Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TAG

4/11/08

/KIMYEN VU/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2135